

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 remain herein.

1. Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Satapathy et al. U.S. Patent 7,089,280 in view of Sneh U.S. Patent 6,266,635. As presently understood by applicants, Satapathy discloses an expert system that is operable to respond to emails, telephone calls, voicemails, videoconferences, and the like. The expert system may store a “voice signature” associated with a user, “to authenticate the user, in future interactions.” Satapathy (9:8-12). Thus, Satapathy uses “voice signatures” merely to authenticate users (i.e., to verify or recognize their identity or authority) and not to sign information (i.e., to memorialize intent to adopt or affirm the information as legally binding).

Satapathy entirely fails to disclose, *inter alia*, receiving an identification of information to be signed, placing an outbound call, creating a voice recording, and using the voice recording and the identification of information to be signed to create a voice signature. Page 4 of applicants’ specification defines “voice signature” as follows: “A voice record is an audio recording that may be used as a memorial of certain facts or as a signature, expressing an intent to affirm a record or transaction for legal purposes. When used as a signature, a voice record may be referred to as a voice signature.” Clearly, Satapathy fails to disclose or suggest a “voice signature” as used by applicants. Sneh fails to provide what is missing.

Thus, there is no disclosure or tendency in Satapathy or Sneh that would have suggested applicants’ claimed invention to one of ordinary skill in this art. Accordingly, applicants request

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reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of claims 1-18.

2. Claims 19, 21, and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Uppaluru U.S. Patent 6,400,806. As presently understood by applicants, Uppaluru discloses a “voice web” that can be used by a subscriber, for example, through the PSTN to access voice web pages. Uppaluru uses “voice signatures” merely to authenticate users and not to sign information. “[T]he conventional voice authentication method determines that the speaker’s voice print or voice signature matches a master stored voice print or voice signature within a tolerance.” Uppaluru (16:48-52).

Uppaluru entirely fails to disclose, *inter alia*, a system wherein a web page receives a document to be signed, a script calls a telephone number and makes a voice recording, and the voice recording is used to make a voice signature. Further, Uppaluru fails to disclose or suggest the legal signature of any document, much less using outbound telephone calls to make a voice recording to form a voice signature. Thus, there is no disclosure or tendency Uppaluru that would have suggested applicants’ claimed invention to one of ordinary skill in this art. Accordingly, applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of claims 19, 21, and 22.

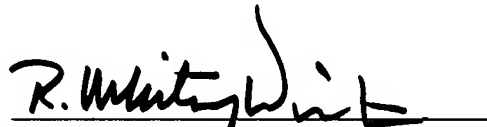
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The application is now in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The PTO is hereby authorized to charge/credit any fee deficiencies or overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-4293 (Order No. 16214.0005). If further amendments would place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is invited to call applicant's undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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